

Robert Searcy to Andrew Jackson, December 9, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

ROBERT SEARCY TO JACKSON.¹

¹ Major Searcy was one of Jackson's aides.

Nashville, December 9, 1813

Dear General , On the 7th. Instant I set out for your head quarters and had not proceeded more than 7 miles before I met Colo Carrol,² and returned with him to assist in accomplishing the objects of his trip in. The absence of the Governor has occasioned some delay in our preparations We have not heard from him, altho we ought to [have] had an answer from him last night.

² Colonel Carroll writing to Jackson on the same day said he and Searcy were doing all they could to get recruits; and they declared that they had to contend against a faction that seemed to wish the expedition to fail.

We have concluded to act without his Authority and have commenced by issuing orders to the commanders of regts. to call together their men on Monday the 13th. Instant for the purpose of procuring as many volunteers as they can to rendezvous at Huntsville on the 21st. If the Governor Sanctions this measure we have expedited the business, by thus early commencing it. if he does not (and I am really apprehensive he will not) we have acted as we should have done had we known his opinion before we began. I entertain strong hopes the number of men required will be raised by voluntary tender of Service. Captns Crain and Cheatham marched through town today with about Sixty men. Majr Phillips of this County is actively imployed in raising a company, he has already got thirty.

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We have started John Childup and James Jackson, they have not been so successfull, but hopes are yet entertained they will Succeed. . . .